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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 8
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

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* A/59/50 and Corr.1.

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Overall orientation

8.1 The legislative authority for the programme derives from General Assembly resolution 55/279 of 12 July 2001, by which the Assembly endorsed the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Brussels in May 2001, and 56/227 of 24 December 2001 whereby the Assembly decided to establish the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General contained in his report of 23 November 2001 (A/56/645 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2).

8.2 The mandate of the programme covers four main elements:

(a) Mobilization and coordination of international support for the effective implementation of: (i) the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010; (ii) the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries; and (iii) the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of the Small Island Developing States;

(b) Enhanced monitoring and follow-up to the three Programmes of Action;

(c) Advocacy and promotion of global awareness with respect to the three groups of countries (least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States);

(d) Reporting at the global level on the implementation of the Brussels and Almaty Programmes of Action as effective tools for reaching the international development goals for the concerned countries.

8.3 In this context, the programme will also contribute to the implementation of the relevant and related internationally agreed development goals concerning the three groups of countries, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. The programme will mobilize international support in favour of its constituencies in the areas of capacity-building and increased technical and financial resources in promoting sustained growth and sustainable development. Gender is an important dimension in the implementation of the three Programmes of Action.

Programme 8
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

Objective of the Organization: To fulfil the commitments of the Brussels, Barbados and Almaty Programmes of Action

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Establishment of national mechanisms in least developed countries for the follow-up and the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action	(a) Number of national forums for the follow-up and implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action in the least developed countries
(b) Effective mainstreaming of the Brussels Programme of Action in the work of the United Nations system and international organizations	(b) Number of related activities undertaken in favour of least developed countries
(c) Increased development assistance for the least developed countries from donors for the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action	(c) Number of activities or actions from the donor community in favour of least developed countries
(d) Establishment of coordinating mechanisms for the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action	(d) (i) Increase in the number of national, subregional and international level follow-up and coordination mechanisms established (ii) Increase in the number of specific actions, such as standardization and simplification procedures for border crossing, by United Nations organizations as well as the transit developing countries and donor countries
(e) Increased coordinated assistance for implementing specific actions in the five priority areas set out in the Almaty Programme of Action	(e) Increased number of joint programmes to further develop transit infrastructure and their efficient use
(f) Implementation of the priorities identified for small island developing States	(f) Number of activities undertaken to implement the priorities identified for small island developing States
(g) Increased involvement of civil society and the private sector	(g) Number of activities undertaken by civil society and the private sector

Strategy

8.4 With a view to addressing the objectives in each of the three main areas of endeavour, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States will use a combination of the following approaches and strategies:

(a) Advocating that the concerns of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States be placed high on the global agenda in respect of the Brussels, Almaty and Barbados Programmes of Action;

(b) Mobilizing international support and resources in favour of the three groups of countries;

(c) Providing monitoring and follow-up to foster supportive policies in the three groups of countries and their development partners;

(d) Working with the United Nations system and other international organizations, including the regional organizations, the donor community and civil society, to ensure proper mainstreaming of priorities identified in each of the three Programmes of Action;

(e) Monitoring of all seven specific commitments of the Brussels Programme of Action: (i) fostering a people-centred policy framework, (ii) good governance at national and international levels, (iii) building human and institutional capacities, (iv) building capacities to make globalization work for least developed countries, (v) enhancing the role of trade in development, (vi) reducing vulnerability and protecting the environment, and (vii) mobilizing financial resources;

(f) Supporting the effective participation of the least developed countries in intergovernmental processes;

(g) Building partnerships towards the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action by establishing coordinating mechanisms for its implementation at national, subregional and global levels;

(h) Monitoring and coordinating implementation of specific actions and initiatives aimed at establishing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries;

(i) Promoting South-South cooperation in various areas for the benefit of the countries of these three groups.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
55/279	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
56/180	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries
56/198	Further implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
56/227	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
57/262	Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

57/276	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
58/201	Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
58/213	Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
58/228	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2002/33	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
2003/17	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Economic and Social Council decision

2001/320	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

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Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 9
United Nations Support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

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Overall orientation

9.1 The programme was established following the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF) in 2002. As a result of that review, the General Assembly adopted its resolution 57/7, which brought to a close UN-NADAF and endorsed the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)[1] as the framework for international community support to African development. In resolution 57/7 the Assembly also outlined the substantive areas and modalities for providing such support. More specifically, it underscored the need for a structure in the Secretariat in New York to review and report on support provided by the United Nations system and the international community for the New Partnership and on the coordinated implementation of outcomes of summit meetings and conferences as they relate to Africa, as well as coordinate global advocacy in support of the New Partnership. In addition, it welcomed the actions being taken at the regional level by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to organize the activities of the United Nations system around thematic clusters covering the priority areas of the New Partnership and, in this regard, urged the strengthening of this process as a means of enhancing the coordinated response of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership. Finally, it called upon the United Nations system to enhance its advocacy role and public information activities in support of Africa's development. Subsequent to resolution 57/7, in its resolution 57/300, the Assembly endorsed the creation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and entrusted to the Special Adviser the role of coordinating reports and advocacy in support of NEPAD.

9.2 It is pertinent to note that there is a commitment in NEPAD to achieving several of the Millennium Development Goals and this represents an important linkage with the United Nations Millennium Declaration. In addition, NEPAD fully reflects the priorities on meeting the special needs of Africa in the Millennium Declaration, namely: supporting the political and institutional structures of emerging democracies in Africa; building peacekeeping capacity further, in cooperation with regional organizations; taking special measures to address the challenges of poverty reduction and sustainable development by increasing official development assistance, enhancing private capital flows and building capacities for trade; and helping Africa build its capacity to tackle the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. From the foregoing, it is clear that NEPAD is the framework for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the aims of the Millennium Declaration in Africa. Consequently, through its support to NEPAD, this programme will contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa.

9.3 One of the reasons for the current situation in Africa is the incidence of armed conflict and insecurity in the region. Although the link between conflict and development was well known, it was not until 1998 that the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871) spelled out in detail the historical legacies, the internal and external factors and the economic motives that are the causes of conflict in Africa, outlined the implications of such conflict for African development and

[1] NEPAD was formally adopted at the 37th Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Lusaka in July 2001.

made concrete recommendations, which are still valid, to address peacemaking, peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance and for building durable peace and promoting economic growth. Since 1998, a number of United Nations actions in Africa have been in line with the recommendations of the report, although a lot still needs to be done. In recognition of this, the General Assembly, in its resolution 58/235 called on the Secretary-General to continue to monitor progress in the implementation of the recommendations.

9.4 In accordance with the mandate provided in the General Assembly resolutions, the programme aims to: (a) mobilize the support and galvanize the efforts of the international community for African peace and development; (b) ensure that the development of Africa remains one of the priorities of the international community; (c) promote a supportive framework for African development efforts; (d) promote a coordinated and effective response by the United Nations system at the policy and operational levels in support of African development; and (e) strengthen and enhance South-South cooperation.

9.5 The Office of the Special Adviser for Africa provides overall coordination and leadership of the programme, which will be under the joint responsibility of the Office of the Special Adviser for Africa, ECA and the Department of Public Information.

Subprogramme 1
Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen international cooperation in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased international community support to African development, in general, and to NEPAD, in particular	(a) (i) The number of recommendations in the reports of the Secretary-General incorporated in General Assembly resolutions on African development
	(ii) An increase in the number of United Nations system activities in support of African development
	(iii) An increase in the number of forums addressing South-South cooperation
	(iv) An increase in the number of Member States incorporating the provisions of General Assembly resolutions on African development in their development agenda

(b) Increased awareness of the link between peace and development in Africa	(b) The number of recommendations in reports emanating from the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa on measures to address the root causes of conflict, that are included in the General Assembly resolutions on Africa
(c) Improved United Nations coordination in providing support to African development	(c) The number of joint initiatives undertaken by the United Nations system in support of African development
(d) Increased international awareness of African development issues	(d) (i) An increase in the number of visits to the web sites of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (ii) An increase in the number of civil society organizations, including the indigenous private sector, involved in the implementation of NEPAD

Strategy

9.6 The subprogramme will ensure that African development issues are adequately addressed in the intergovernmental debates and incorporated into the resolutions emerging from those bodies. It will seek to raise awareness of African development issues through advocacy and catalytic activities, participation at key forums, promotion of United Nations system coordination, promotion of South-South cooperation and interface with the civil society and private sector. In addition, it will closely monitor and follow up on existing commitments made in connection with recent international conferences and other initiatives.

9.7 In view of the interlinkages between peace and development in Africa, the subprogramme will analyse and draw attention to the root causes of conflict in African countries, monitor early warning signals and advise on steps which need to be taken to mitigate conflicts in African countries.

9.8 The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will work closely with Member States, the African Union, the NEPAD secretariat, the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the Global Coalition for Africa, in the performance of its functions. In addition, it will establish and maintain contacts with civil society organizations and the private sector. It will promote South-South cooperation through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and by providing support to various South-South forums.

Subprogramme 2
Regional coordination of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen the United Nations system-wide support for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development at the regional and subregional levels

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced coherence, coordination and cooperation among United Nations agencies in support of the implementation of NEPAD at the regional and subregional levels	(a) The number of joint activities and programmes undertaken at the regional and subregional levels
(b) Improved cooperation and coordination between United Nations agencies and the African continental organizations (African Union, African Development Bank and the Regional Economic Communities) for the effective implementation of NEPAD at the regional and subregional levels	(b) An increase in the number of memorandums of understanding signed collectively or bilaterally between United Nations agencies and the African Union, the African Development Bank and the Regional Economic Communities, aiming at strengthening joint programming and/or joint implementation of activities or programmes in support of NEPAD at the subregional and regional levels
(c) Strengthened capacities of regional and subregional organizations in support of NEPAD	(c) An increase in the number of regional and subregional organizations that have established programmes in support of NEPAD

Strategy

9.9 The substantive responsibility for the implementation of this subprogramme lies with a special coordinating unit in the Office of Policy and Programme Coordination of ECA. In implementing the subprogramme, ECA will work closely with other United Nations bodies at the global and regional levels, particularly with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Department of Public Information, within the context of United Nations support for NEPAD.

9.10 The strategic focus of this subprogramme will be on activities with significant collaborative potentials in order to enhance the coherence and impact of the work of the United Nations in Africa. To that end, the subprogramme will strengthen inter-agency collaboration in the implementation of operational activities in support of the priorities of NEPAD through the activities of the various thematic clusters; promote the guiding principles of NEPAD to ensure broader stakeholder participation in its implementation; facilitate consensus-building on key priority issues of concern to Africa through such consultative forums as the annual regional consultation meetings of United Nations agencies, the African Development Forum and other similar forums for sharing information and experiences; foster partnerships and networks in support of the implementation of NEPAD; ensure effective outreach of the Organization's advocacy role in support of NEPAD through ECA subregional

offices; and monitor, assess and report on progress in the implementation of United Nations system-wide action plans in support of NEPAD.

Subprogramme 3
Public information and awareness activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization: To raise international awareness of the critical economic and social situation in Africa, as well as of the efforts made by Africa and the international community to promote the economic recovery and sustainable development of the region in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved quality and timely issuance of *Africa Recovery* and *Afrique relance*	(a) (i) The percentage of the target audience expressing satisfaction with the quality of the magazine (ii) A reduction in the number of days beyond 3 months for each issuance of *Africa Recovery* and *Afrique relance*
(b) Enhanced awareness of key thematic issues covered by the information materials produced by the subprogramme, both in print and on the web site	(b) The percentage of the target audience indicating enhanced understanding of key thematic issues

Strategy

9.11 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the Department of Public Information. The overall strategy relies on developing global communications plans on priority issues affecting Africa and on ensuring that those plans are implemented in coordination with the rest of the Department, the United Nations Communications Group and the United Nations system as a whole. Activities will include the quarterly publication of *Africa Recovery* magazine, together with a range of additional outputs, including web-only news and analysis, background notes, press releases and briefing papers for use by the non-United Nations international and African media. Dissemination to a diverse public as well as to target groups, such as parliamentarians, policy makers both in Government and non-Government organizations, trade unions, civil society and academic institutions, will be achieved through direct contact with individuals and groups as well as through systematic outreach to the media in Africa and to the international mass media so as to ensure that the key players are informed of major national and international initiatives and events that affect sustainable development in Africa.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

54/35	Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic
54/232	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
54/234	The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
55/210	Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication
55/214	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
55/217	Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
55/279	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
56/95	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/2	United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development
57/7	Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development
57/300	Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change
58/233	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
58/235	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Security Council resolutions

1170 (1998)

1197 (1998)

Economic and Social Council

Ministerial declaration adopted by the Council at its high-level segment of 2001